

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An exhaust gas purifying apparatus comprising an exhaust pipe for forming an exhaust way communicated with an exhaust port of an engine, and a catalyst disposed in said exhaust way for purifying an exhaust gas;

the improvement comprising:

said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe having a first mounting position and a second mounting position disposed at the downstream side with respect to said first mounting position; and

said catalyst having a first honeycomb catalyst portion placed at said first mounting position of said exhaust way and a second honeycomb catalyst portion placed at said second mounting position of said exhaust way, said first honeycomb catalyst portion having an outer circumferential surface for forming a blowing passage with an inwall surface of said exhaust pipe and including a metallic first carrier with a plurality of holes being along a length direction of said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe, said second honeycomb catalyst portion including a metallic second carrier with a plurality of holes being along a length direction of said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe; wherein

the radial cross sectional area in a catalyst region of said first honeycomb catalyst portion is set in the  $1/5$ - $2/3$  range with respect to the radial cross sectional area of a flowing way defined by said inwall surface of said first mounting position of said exhaust way with said first honeycomb catalyst portion being removed.

2. (Original) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe includes a small diameter portion with said first mounting position disposed at the upstream side of said exhaust way, and a large diameter

portion with said second mounting position disposed at the downstream side in said exhaust way with respect to said small diameter portion; and wherein

said first honeycomb catalyst portion is placed in said small diameter portion and said second honeycomb catalyst portion is placed in said large diameter portion.

3. (Original) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the density of said holes of said first honeycomb catalyst portion is set in the range of 40-200 cells per square inch.

4. (Original) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the axial length of said first honeycomb catalyst portion is 0.5-1 times as long as the diameter of said first honeycomb catalyst portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first honeycomb catalyst portion is installed at said first mounting position of said exhaust way by a first supporting member placed between said inwall surface of said exhaust way and said outer circumferential surface of said first honeycomb catalyst portion.

6. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first honeycomb catalyst portion and said second honeycomb catalyst portion are placed ~~in the central region in a radial direction~~ to be centered in a cross-section of said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe.

7. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second honeycomb catalyst portion is installed at said second mounting position of said exhaust way by a second supporting member placed between an inwall surface of said second mounting position of said exhaust way and an outer circumferential surface of said second honeycomb catalyst portion.

8. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said second supporting member closes or substantially closes a space between said inwall surface of said second mounting position of said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe and said outer circumferential surface of said second honeycomb catalyst portion.

9. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said second supporting member forms a second blowing passage of exhaust gas between said inwall surface of said second mounting position of said exhaust way of said exhaust pipe and said outer circumferential surface of said second honeycomb catalyst portion.

10. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first honeycomb catalyst portion includes said metallic first carrier retaining a catalyst component and a first external sleeve for holding an outer circumferential surface of said metallic first carrier; and wherein

said second honeycomb catalyst portion includes said metallic second carrier retaining a catalyst component and a second external sleeve for holding an outer circumferential surface of said metallic second carrier.

11. (Previously Presented) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said metallic first carrier of said first honeycomb catalyst portion is formed by bonding a convolute body with blazing material, said convolute body is formed by rolling a metallic wave plate and a metallic flat plate in a vortex shape; and wherein

said metallic second carrier of said second honeycomb catalyst portion is formed by bonding a convolute body with blazing material, said a convolute body is formed by rolling a metallic wave plate and a metallic flat plate in a vortex shape.

12. (Original) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when "Sc" exhibits the radial cross sectional area in the catalyst region of said first honeycomb catalyst portion, and when "Sb" exhibits an area of the flowing way of said blowing passage, the ratio of Sc/Sb is set in the 0.25-2.06 range.

13. (Original) The exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second honeycomb catalyst portion is larger than said first honeycomb catalyst portion in a purifying ability per unit time.

14. (Previously Presented) An exhaust system of a motorcycle engine, comprising:

the exhaust gas purifying apparatus according to claim 1.